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FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
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INFO RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE
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UNCLAS SINGAPORE 000547

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

EAP/MTS - M. COPPOLA
PM/PPA - D. FORAN
IO/UNP - J. FITZGERALD

E.O. 12958: N/A
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SUBJECT: SINGAPORE UNWILLING TO BE DRAWN INTO INTERNATIONAL
PIRACY COURT DISPUTE

REF: SECSTATE 58579

(SBU) Poloff urged Singapore to oppose the creation of an of an international criminal tribunal to prosecute piracy suspects (reftel) during a June 9 conversation with MFA Special Projects Deputy Director Iris Chen. Chen said Singapore is still formulatQg its position on the issue and is waiting to see how other countries lean. Chen acknowledged that because Singapore is keen to join the Contact Group for Piracy off the Coast of Somalia (CGPCS), it hopes to avoid creating an unfavorable impression with members of the CGPCS that have come down on different sides of this issue. Chen noted that Russia had also demarched Singapore (asking for Singapore's support of the court's creation) and that Singapore gave the same response to the Russians.

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